

J.C.S. 1907/262

28 March 1960

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JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

DECISION ON J.C.S. 1907/262 - 9172 Berlin/1110
17 July 69

A Memorandum by the Director, Joint Staff

on

REDUCTION OF BERLIN GARRISON (M)

Note by the Secretaries

1. At their meeting on 25 March 1960, the Joint Chiefs of Staff approved the recommendations in paragraphs 4, 5 and 6.
2. The memorandum in the Enclosure was forwarded as JCSM-123-60, dated 28 March 1960, to the Secretary of Defense.
3. This decision now becomes a part of and shall be attached as the top sheet of J.C.S. 1907/262.

H. L. HILLYARD,
F. J. BLOUIN,
Joint Secretariat.

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22 March 1960

Pages 1686 - 1688, incl.

MEMORANDUM BY THE DIRECTOR, JOINT STAFF

for the

JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

on

REDUCTION OF BERLIN GARRISON (S)References: a. J.C.S. 1907/215 - 4172 Berlin/1110 (7 July)
b. J.C.S. 1907/261-

1. On 15 March 1960, the Assistant Secretary of Defense (ISA) 1
requested* that the Joint Chiefs of Staff reexamine their views 2
and recommendations contained in their memorandum** of 8 July 3
1959 to the Secretary of Defense on reduction of the Berlin 4
garrison, in order to provide the Department of Defense with 5
guidance regarding the required size of the allied garrison in 6
Berlin. 7

2. The memorandum** by the Joint Chiefs of Staff to the 8
Secretary of Defense, dated 8 July 1959, recommended that the 9
following views be transmitted to the Secretary of State: 10

a. A reduction of the allied Berlin garrison should not 11
be effected as long as East Germany remains under Communistic 12
domination. 13

b. A reduction of the allied Berlin garrison should not 14
be tendered as a concession to the Soviet Union in the then 15
current, but recessed, Geneva discussions. 16

* Enclosure to J.C.S. 1907/261

** Enclosure "A" to J.C.S. 1907/215

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JCS 1907/262

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ENCLOSURE

DRAFT

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

Subject: Reduction of Berlin Garrison (S)

1. Reference is made to a memorandum* by the Assistant Secretary of Defense (ISA), subject as above, dated 15 March 1960, requesting that the Joint Chiefs of Staff reexamine their views and recommendations contained in JCSM-264-59** of 8 July 1959, in order to provide the Department of Defense with guidance regarding the required size of the allied garrison in Berlin.

2. The Joint Chiefs of Staff have reexamined their memorandum** to you of 8 July 1959 on this matter, and have concluded that the opinions and recommendations set forth therein remain valid.

3. The Joint Chiefs of Staff perceive no fundamental change in the threat to the freedom and safety of Berlin. Recent developments, including statements of Mr. Khrushchev, do not indicate any modification to the long-term objectives of the Soviet Union with respect to Germany and Berlin, nor do they foreshadow any lessening of Communistic control in East Germany. Under such circumstances any reduction in the size of the Berlin garrison would symbolize a decrease in the interest of the Western Powers in Berlin, which would lead inevitably to an erosion of their already insecure position. Therefore, the current size of the U.S. Berlin garrison represents a minimum balance of force to maintain our objectives there.

* Enclosure to J.C.S. 1907/261
** Enclosure "A" to J.C.S. 1907/215

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Enclosure

3. Recent developments, including statements by Khrushchev, 1
do not indicate any modification to the long-term objectives of 2
the Soviet Union with respect to Germany and Berlin. Since the 3
allied obligations in Berlin remain unchanged, the assigned 4
mission of the Berlin garrison is also unchanged. Therefore, 5
comments on a proposed reduction of the Berlin garrison as pro- 6
vided in the memorandum* by the Joint Chiefs of Staff to the 7
Secretary of Defense, dated 8 July 1959, remain valid. 8

4. It is recommended that the memorandum in the Enclosure 9
hereto be forwarded to the Secretary of Defense. 10

5. It is recommended that copies of this paper NOT be for- 11
warded to commanders of unified or specified commands. 12

6. In consonance with the provisions of J.C.S. Memorandum of 13
Policy No. 83, it is recommended that copies of this paper NOT 14
be forwarded to U.S. officers assigned to NATO activities. 15

* Enclosure "A" to J.C.S. 1907/215

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